AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1.   (Original) A method for distributing, from a first computing device to at least one second computing device over a peer-to-peer network, a piece of data from a content server, the method comprising:

obtaining the piece of data, by the first computing device, from the content server, the first computing device being a client of the content server and a peer in a peer-to-peer network group;

communicating to other peers in the peer-to-peer network group that the piece of data is available to be obtained from the first computing device;

locating the piece of data on the first computing device, by the at least one second computing device, wherein the at least one second computing device is also a peer in the peer-to-peer network group and the first computing device and the at least one second computing device are connected via a local area connection; and

obtaining the piece of data, by the second computing device, from the first computing device via the peer-to-peer network.

2.   (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the local area connection is a part of an enterprise network.

3.   (Original) The method of claim 2, wherein the enterprise network comprises a wide area connection.

4.   (Original) The method of claim 3, wherein the obtaining the piece of data by the first computing device comprises:

requesting the piece of data from a third computing device; and

receiving the piece of data, wherein the requesting and receiving utilizes the wide area connection.

5.   (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the local area connection is a part of a home network.

6.   (Original) The method of claim 5, wherein the home network comprises a broadband connection.

7.   (Original) The method of claim 6, wherein the obtaining the piece of data by the first computing device comprises:

        requesting the piece of data from a third computing device; and

        receiving the piece of data, wherein the requesting and receiving utilizes the broadband connection.

8.   (Original) The method of claim 5, wherein the home network comprises a dial-up connection.

9.   (Original) The method of claim 8, wherein the obtaining the piece of data by the first computing device comprises:

        requesting the piece of data from a third computing device; and

        receiving the piece of data, wherein the requesting and receiving utilizes the dial-up connection.

10.   (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the communicating to other peers in the peer-to-peer network group comprises:

        updating a local data store with informational data about the piece of data; and

        propagating the updates to the data store to local data stores residing on the other peers in the peer-to-peer network group.

11.   (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the locating the piece of data on the first computing device comprises:

        identifying in a local data store a record corresponding to the piece of data; and

        determining, from the record, at least one computing device in the peer-to-peer network group that possesses the piece of data.

12.   (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the obtaining the piece of data by the second computing device comprises:

initiating a request, by the second computing device, to the first computing device for the piece of data;

sending the piece of data, by the first computing device, to the second computing device; and

accepting the piece of data, by the second computing device, from the first computing device.

13.   (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the obtaining of the piece of data, by the first computing device, and the obtaining the piece of data, by the second computing device, from the first computing device occurs as a real-time stream of the piece of data.

14.   (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the piece of data is a product update.

15.   (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the piece of data is an application.

16.   (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the piece of data is a virus definition file.

17.   (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the piece of data is a web cache.

18.   (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the piece of data is a media stream.

19.   (Original) A computer-readable medium containing instructions for performing a method for distributing, from a first computing device to at least one second computing device over a peer-to-peer network, a piece of data from a content server, the method comprising:

obtaining the piece of data, by the first computing device, from the content server, the first computing device being a client of the content server and a peer in a peer-to-peer network group;

communicating to other peers in the peer-to-peer network group that the piece of data is available to be obtained from the first computing device;

locating the piece of data on the first computing device, by the at least one second computing device, wherein the at least one second computing device is also a peer in the peer-to-peer network group and the first computing device and the at least one second computing device are connected via a local area connection; and

obtaining the piece of data, by the second computing device, from the first computing device via the peer-to-peer network.

20.   (Currently Amended) A method for distributing, from a first computing device to at least one second computing device over a peer-to-peer network, a piece of data from a content server, the method comprising:

obtaining the piece of data, by the first computing device, from the content server, the first computing device being a client of the content server and a peer in a peer-to-peer network group;

communicating to other peers in the peer-to-peer network group that the piece of data is available to be obtained from the first computing device;

locating the piece of data on the first computing device, by the at least one second computing device, wherein the at least one second computing device is also a peer in the peer-to-peer network group and the first computing device and the at least one second computing device are connected via a local~~wide~~ area connection; and

obtaining the piece of data, by the second computing device, from the first computing device via the peer-to-peer network.

21.   (Canceled)

22.   (Original) The method of claim 20, wherein the communicating to other peers in the peer-to-peer network group comprises:

updating a local data store with informational data about the piece of data; and

propagating the updates to the data store to local data stores residing on the other peers in the peer-to-peer network group.

23.   (Original) The method of claim 20, wherein the locating the piece of data on the first computing device comprises:

identifying in a local data store a record corresponding to the piece of data; and

determining, from the record, at least one computing device in the peer-to-peer network group that possesses the piece of data.

24. (Original) The method of claim 20, wherein the obtaining the piece of data by the second computing device comprises:

initiating a request, by the second computing device, to the first computing device for the piece of data;

sending the piece of data, by the first computing device, to the second computing device; and

accepting the piece of data, by the second computing device, from the first computing device.

25. (Original) The method of claim 20, wherein the obtaining of the piece of data, by the first computing device, and the obtaining the piece of data, by the second computing device, from the first computing device occurs as a real-time stream of the piece of data.

26. (Original) The method of claim 20, wherein the piece of data is a product update.

27. (Original) The method of claim 20, wherein the piece of data is an application.

28. (Original) The method of claim 20, wherein the piece of data is a virus definition file.

29. (Original) The method of claim 20, wherein the piece of data is a web cache.

30. (Original) The method of claim 20, wherein the piece of data is a media stream.

31. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable medium containing instructions for performing a method for distributing, from a first computing device to at least one second

computing device over a peer-to-peer network, a piece of data from a content server, the

method comprising:

obtaining the piece of data, by the first computing device, from the content server, the

first computing device being a client of the content server and a peer in a peer-to-peer

network group;

communicating to other peers in the peer-to-peer network group that the piece of data

is available to be obtained from the first computing device;

locating the piece of data on the first computing device, by the at least one second

computing device, wherein the at least one second computing device is also a peer in the

peer-to-peer network group and the first computing device and the at least one second

computing device are connected via a local~~wide~~ area connection; and

obtaining the piece of data, by the second computing device, from the first computing

device via the peer-to-peer network.

32.   (Currently Amended) A method for distributing, from a first computing

device to at least one second computing device over a peer-to-peer network, a piece of data

from a content server, the method comprising:

obtaining the piece of data, by the first computing device, from the content server, the

first computing device being a client of the content server and a peer in a peer-to-peer

network group;

communicating to other peers in the peer-to-peer network group that the piece of data

is available to be obtained from the first computing device;

requesting the piece of data from the content server, by the at least one second

computing device;

redirecting the request from the at least one second computing device, by the content

server, to the first computing device;

locating the piece of data on the first computing device, by the at least one second

computing device, wherein the at least one second computing device is also a peer in the

peer-to-peer network group and the first computing device and the second computing device

are connected via a local area network; and

obtaining the piece of data, by the second computing device, from the first computing

device via the peer-to-peer network.

33.   (Original) The method of claim 32, wherein the communicating to other peers in the peer-to-peer network group comprises:

updating a local data store with informational data about the piece of data; and

propagating the updates to the data store to local data stores residing on the other peers in the peer-to-peer network group.

34.   (Original) The method of claim 32, wherein the locating the piece of data on the first computing device comprises:

identifying in a local data store a record corresponding to the piece of data; and

determining, from the record, at least one computing device in the peer-to-peer network group that possesses the piece of data.

35.   (Original) The method of claim 32, wherein the obtaining the piece of data by the second computing device comprises:

initiating a request, by the second computing device, to the first computing device for the piece of data;

sending the piece of data, by the first computing device, to the second computing device; and

accepting the piece of data, by the second computing device, from the first computing device.

36.   (Original) The method of claim 32, wherein the obtaining of the piece of data, by the first computing device, and the obtaining the piece of data, by the second computing device, from the first computing device occurs as a real-time stream of the piece of data.

37.   (Original) The method of claim 32, wherein the piece of data is a product update.

38.   (Original) The method of claim 32, wherein the piece of data is an application.

39.   (Original) The method of claim 32, wherein the piece of data is a virus definition file.

40.　　(Original)　The method of claim 32, wherein the piece of data is a web cache.

41.　　(Original)　The method of claim 32, wherein the piece of data is a media stream.

42.　　(Presently Amended)　A computer-readable medium containing instructions for performing a method for distributing, from a first computing device to at least one second computing device over a peer-to-peer network, a piece of data from a content server, the method comprising:

obtaining the piece of data, by the first computing device, from the content server, the first computing device being a client of the content server and a peer in a peer-to-peer network group wherein the piece of data is at least one selected from a group comprising:

a product update;

an application;

a virus definition file;

a web cache; and

a media stream;

communicating to other peers in the peer-to-peer network group that the piece of data is available to be obtained from the first computing device;

requesting the piece of data from the content server, by the at least one second computing device;

redirecting the request from the at least one second computing device, by the content server, to the first computing device;

locating the piece of data on the first computing device, by the at least one second computing device, wherein the at least one second computing device is also a peer in the peer-to-peer network group; and

obtaining the piece of data, by the second computing device, from the first computing device via the peer-to-peer network.